

Introduction to a Michigan Historical Period

Grade Level: 4th Grade

Materials:

- Collection of artifacts related to the time period to be studied
- These items could be from a private collection or borrowed from a local historical museum.
- The Straits Area state parks have a box of artifacts from Fort Michilimackinac and Fort Mackinac which they loan free of charge.

Procedure:

- Distribute items to individual students or a cooperative group.
- Have students name the object, describe what it is made from, whether it was made by hand or machine, and its purpose.
- Students share their predictions.
- Teacher refines information about items after all items have been shared.

As students learn about the historical period, they will seek out the importance of the artifact to the time studied. This activity helps students anticipate what life was like in the past.

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